Introduction of Euro-Hi standard for automobiles

4035. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Euro-Ill standard in automobiles cars has been made applicable in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how far it would increase the cost of the cars manufactured by Maruti Udyog Limited and other companies;

(d) whether any deadline has been fixed to ensure that all cars in the country conform to Euro-Ill standard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) As per information received from Department of Road Transport & Highways, that Department has issued notification prescribing that vehicles manufactured on or after 1.4.2005, shall be registered in the 11 (eleven) mega cities namely NCR of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Hyderabad/ Secunderabad, Ahmedabad, Pune, Surat, Kanpur, Bangalore and Agra, only if these correspond to Bharat Stage III (akin to Euro-Ill) norms.

(c) According to the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), the increase in cost of cars due to introduction of Bharat Stage-Ill, norms would range from Rs. 5000 onwards depending on model.

(d) and (e) As per the road envisaged in the Auto Fuel Policy cars in the rest of the country (other than the aforesaid 11 cities) are expected to have Euro-Ill equivalent emission norms from 1st April, 2010.

Recruitment in PSUs

4036. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to refer to reply to Starred Question 163 given In the Rajya Sabha on the 14th March, 2005 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recruitment has been stopped in the PSUs; and